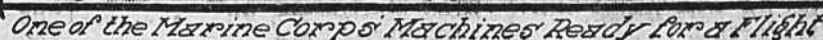




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Millions Will Be Spent.

Capt.
Mark
Bristol,
Chief of
Aeronau-
tics of
U.S. Navy



Cause of Training.

for experimental purposes.

To Be Built By Government.

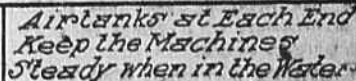
The experiment with the dirigible is entirely new to the navy flying corps, and it is believed that its introduction into the service is due to the favorable reports made by our aviation experts who have been studying the work of the Zeppelins during the present war.

Ideal Spot.

ways on the watch when flights are being made. From this point the watcher is able to detect the slightest mishap to a machine. Happily, accidents have been few, although hundreds of flights have been made. Last year a series of manoeuvres were held when the aviators did scout work and proved that an aeroplane is the worst enemy of the deadly submarine. It is a much swifter craft than the under sea boat and after sighting the latter it can give warning of its position before the submarine can get out of the way. Bomb dropping has also been tried out with success. This test was made by placing small targets on the water and dropping bombs upon them.

Experiments.

The North Carolina is the station ship. She recently returned from duty in the Mediterranean waters and has been designated by the Department as the aeronautic ship and the home of the aviation corps. The vessel has been equipped with two aeroplane hoisting cranes and extensive experiments will be made to find out the most practical way of hoisting aeroplanes on and off of ships. A catapult or aeroplane launching device which was tried out with more or less success from a coal barge has been installed on board the North Carolina. Recently the cruiser went out to sea for the purpose of testing the apparatus and two successful aeroplane flights were made by its aid from the decks of a battleship.



The device used consists of a track extending along the ship's after deck upon which is a car. The aeroplane lands on the device from the air and is secured to the car. On launching, the car is driven down the track until it has attained high speed. This is brought to a sudden stop and the aeroplane released from its moorings, soars into the air, having been shot over the cruiser's stern at a speed of fifty miles an hour. The apparatus is the invention of Captain W. Chambers, and was first tested at the Washington navy yard. Its success opens up new possibilities for navy aeroplanes, as the device permits them to be launched without the aid of a platform obstructing gun fire.

Just now the aviation station is a busy place, for everybody seems to have the spirit of "preparedness" and is working with might and main to perfect everything pertaining to their work along aviation lines.

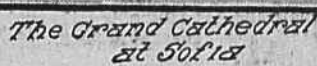
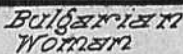
With a few exceptions, the navy is named by the aircraft. The first part of the name is a glance the type of machine. For instance, A-B, stands for flying boat; A-X, means a combination of land and water machine; A-H, means a hydro-aeroplane; B, stands for balloon; D-N, for non-rigid dirigible. The number following these letters indicates the number of the machine of its type. For example, A-H-10 means that it is the tenth hydro-aeroplane added to the navy's equipment. The new dirigible will be marked D-N-1, it being the first of its kind. The machines used by the Marine Corps officers are still marked in the old fashion, such as U. S. M. C. E-1, which indicates that the flying boat is the first one of the E type.

An excellent start in the perfection of our flying corps has been made at Pensacola, and if Captain Mark Bristol, the chief of the navy aeronautics, is allowed to carry out his plans great strides in the art of flying will be made during the coming year at this old Southern yard.

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Fighters From Earliest Times.

King Ferdinand and Queen
Elenore



Ferdinand Elected Ruler.

Wife and Children.

Shrewdness.

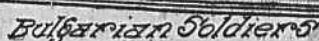
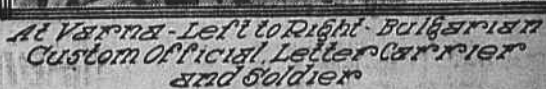
King Ferdinand is said to have inherited his shrewdness from his mother, who taught him the game of politics early in life. Ambitious to the last degree, she practically forced her son to accept the offer of the Bulgarians. She had been told by a fortune teller that "although she had come into the world the daughter of an uncrowned king she would leave the mother of a crowned king," and believing this she set about teaching him all the intricacies of diplomacy. The Princess Clementine, however, died one year before the prophecy was fulfilled, as it was not until 1908 that Ferdinand was proclaimed King of the Bulgars. All through his reign he has demonstrated that he is a past master in the art of intrigue commonly known as diplomacy, and has earned the name of "the Fox of the Balkans."

Army.

cavalry is said to be a splendid body of fine horsemen.

People and Country.

The great mass of Bulgarians are engaged in tilling the soil and they know little of politics. When called out to fight they go to it as a business and fight until they win or are wounded or killed. The majority of them are fatalists and if wounded they take it as the fortune of war and suffer with a stoicism which causes the American surgeon to marvel at their fortitude. The Bulgarian peasant has few comforts as comforts go in America, but he does not seem to be satisfied to live roughly so they have enough to eat. There was little real poverty until after the last war with Servia, but even this is not great. Poverty in our sense of the word does not exist. The women love gay colors, stripes running around instead of lengthwise being the favorite style. They often wear strings of coins in their hair or on their necks. What they wear means beautiful, they are such well formed, sturdy women that they attract one's attention.



the affairs of Bulgaria himself and a series of incidents occurred which plunged that country into a war with Servia and ended in the abdication of Prince Alexander.

The Grand Council met once more, and this time elected Waldemar of Denmark as the ruler, but the prince refused the honor. It was next referred to King Carol of Roumania, but he, too, refused to serve. Plots and counterplots crept in, and it became imperative that a ruler for Bulgaria should be found at once, so a committee was sent out to examine the royal cadets of Europe. While almost in despair of finding the proper man one of the committee dropped into a circus in Vienna where he met the friend who declared he knew the very man in the position and as a valuable present king, then Prince